

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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71

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01

USIA-15 PRS-01 RSR-01 /046 W
----- 085887

P 292115Z JUL 73

FM AMCONSUL PERTH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 610

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

UNCLAS PERTH 156

FOR EA/ANP

DELIVERY OPENING BUSINESS JULY 30

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT

SUBJECT: BALCATT BY-ELECTION

REF: PERTH A47 JULY 26

(1) CRUCIAL BY-ELECTION JULY 28 FOR LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY MAN FROM CALCATTA DISTRICT IN PERTH SUBURBS
PRODUCED UNEXPECTED CLOSE RESULT . OPPOSITION LIBERAL
PARTY CANDIDATE BECK POLLED 9146 VOTES TO LABOUR CANDIDATE
BURKES 9034 , A LEAD OF 112 . BECAUSE BECK LACKED
A MAJORITY , PREFERENCES LIMITED IN VOTES FOR 3RD
CANDIDATE MUST BE DISTRIBUTED . ALTHOUGH OFFICIAL TALLY
WILL NOT BE KNOWN UNTIL JULY 30 OR EVEN LATER, INFORMAL
TALLY INDICATES LABOUR CANDIDATE BURKE WON BY 34 VOTES.
RECOUNT WILL BE ORDERED BUT NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN
OFFICIAL TALLY IS EXPECTED AND BOTH LABOUR AND LIBERAL PARTIES ARE
BELIEVED TO HAVE AGREED THAT LABOUR WON BY 30 ALSO VOTES.

(2) LABOURS VICTORY IN
BALCATT RETAINS STATE GOVERNMENTS ONE SEAT MARGIN IN
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. CLOSENESS OF VOTE IN WHAT
WAS REGARDED AS BLUE RIBBON LABOR DISTRICT WAS SURPRISE TO
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MOST OBSERVERS.

BURNS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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